

Tuesday, June 27, 2000

AF/KSC partner in Joint Planning and Customer Service



Three orbiters in OPF undergoing pre-launch service, maintenance

▲ **KSC/AF Sign Interagency Agreement:** CD Roy Bridges and Commander of the 45th Space Wing Brig. Gen. Donald P. Pettit have signed an interagency agreement establishing the Joint Planning and Customer Service (JPCS) office. The agreement is intended to serve as a “one-stop shop” for new customers of the two federal agencies and expand the Air Force/NASA partnership. The JPCS office is temporarily located at Patrick AFB, with Rick Blucker serving as director. Blucker is director of the 45th Space Wing Plans and Programs Office. A permanent site at Cape Canaveral Air Force Station is being sought for the JPCS office.



▲ **Shuttle Update:** *Atlantis* is in OPF bay 3 undergoing testing on the orbiter main propulsion system. It will fly on mission STS-106 in September. *Discovery*, in OPF bay 1, is undergoing checkout of its forward reaction control system. Orbiter communication system checks are scheduled for tomorrow. *Discovery* is scheduled to fly on mission STS-92 NET Sept. 28. *Endeavour*, in OPF bay 2, was slated to have its robot arm moved to vertical and powered up for testing yesterday. Arm removal is planned for tomorrow. *Endeavour* will fly on STS-97 at the end of November, the last mission of 2000.



◆ **Sweetened Space:** The discovery of a simple sugar molecule, glycolaldehyde, in a giant cloud of gas and dust near the center of our own Milky Way Galaxy was made by scientists using the National Science Foundation’s radio telescope on Kitt Peak, Ariz. “The discovery of this sugar

molecule in a cloud from which new stars are forming means it is increasingly likely that the chemical precursors to life are formed in such clouds long before planets develop around the stars,” said Jan M. Hollis of the NASA Goddard Space Flight Center in Greenbelt, Md. Hollis worked with several other scientists on the observations, made in May. They have submitted their results to the *Astrophysical Journal Letters*. For the full story, go to <http://www.gsfc.nasa.gov/pub/PAO/Releases/2000/00-73.htm>.



◆ **NASA’s Occupational Health Program (OHP)** is taking part in a cutting-edge research project to assist civil service and contractor employees in quitting smoking and staying smoke free. The program can be accessed via computer, through the OHP Web site <http://ohp.ksc.nasa.gov/>. For more information, contact the QuitCigs Project, ORCAS, 800-934-0626, or quitcigs@orcasin.com. For problems accessing the program on the Web, contact Steve Pierce, 867-4047, or e-mail steve.pierce-1@ksc.nasa.gov.

◆ **Reminder: Desktop yoga seminars start this week.** This new and innovative form of yoga teaches easy breathing techniques and yoga exercises that can be done at your desk. Seminars are held from 11 a.m. – noon, on the four dates listed here: June 27 – OSB, room 4318/June 28 – HQ, room 1471/July 6 – SSPF, room 2048/July 7 – Logistics Bldg., room 2548. Call 867-7829 for information.

◆ **Did You Know?** Health Education and Wellness Training tapes are presented on KSC’s channel 60 every Friday at 11 a.m.

KSC Countdown is published every Tuesday & Thursday.

Deadlines: 10 a.m. the day before. Send information, comments or questions to:

E-mail – Anita.Barrett-1@ksc.nasa.gov ◆ Mail Code – IDI-011 ◆ Telephone – 867-2815
Countdown on the Internet -- <http://www-pao.ksc.nasa.gov/kscpao/ksccount/2000/2000.htm>